POSTER & PAPER ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS & PRESENTATIONS FOR CONFERENCES

Mithila Vidwans

mvidwans@uwo.ca

GENERAL GUIDELINES

Types of Conferences: Academic, Professional & Institutional

- Academic Conferences: Graduate students and professors in the field attend and present their research
- Professional Conferences: Attended by professionals in the field (e.g., teachers, publishers)
- Institutional Conferences: Your colleagues from the department or faculty attend and present their research

■ The Abstract: What to Include

- Must be tailored to the type of conference at which you are presenting
- Set up the context of your research → Where does your study take place?
- Set up the problem under investigation > Why is it important to conduct this study?
- Introduce your study → How does your study tackle the problem/gap?
- Briefly mention theory & methodology → Is your study qualitative, quantitative or mixed?
- Describe results (Findings & Discussion) → What did you find & why is it important?
- Conclusion → Implications of your study

► Abstract Submission: Things to Ensure

- Be clear & coherent → Have a colleague or professor proofread your abstract prior to submission
- Word/page limit of the abstract/title → Most abstracts require 150-350 words; some have page limits; some even have a word limit on the title
- Is a summary required in addition to the abstract? → Some conferences require a 30-50 word summary along with the 150-350 word abstract: Double check!
- References Sources may/may not be included in the word/page limit for the abstract
- Jargon/Abbreviations → Will the reviewer know the jargon/abbreviations specific to your field?
- Submission format→ Email attachment (MS Word/PDF); Online (upload through conference/organization website); Stylistic issues (font type, font size among others)
- Deadline→ Check time-zone of the location of your conference especially if submitting through an automatic submission system online

POSTERS

▶ Poster Presentations: What to Include (General Guidelines)

- Title
- Name & Institution
- Abstract
- Introduction
- Theory & Methods
- Results: Findings & Discussion
- Conclusion: Limitations, Future Directions

▶ Poster Creation/Printing Resources:

- Instructions on how to create a poster:
 - http://www.gradpath.uwo.ca/resources/presentation.html
- Poster printing:
 - http://www.edu.uwo.ca/research/research-day/printing.html

PAPERS

▶ Paper Presentations: What to Include (General Guidelines)

- Title
- Name & Institution
- Introduction
- Theoretical Framework & Literature Review
- Methods
- Results: Findings & Discussion
- Conclusion: Limitations, Future Directions

Paper Presentations: Before, During & After

- → Before the presentation:
- Practice: Does your talk fit into the time limit?
- → During the presentation:
- Make eye contact
- Use bullet points on slides
- Avoid reading from your slides
- Be professional! → Dress well, wear your nametag, keep business cards handy
- → After the presentation:
- Answer questions confidently & clearly
- Take notes
- Thank your audience!